

Correspondence.

PORTLAND CEMENT.

SIR,—The basins in Trafalgar-square have been repaired with Roman cement: can you assign the reason they have not been repaired with Portland cement, that being the material the bottoms are laid with? If Portland cement is so superior to all other cements, how is it that they are not repaired with the same?

As this may tend to lower the estimation in which Portland cement is held, it would be well to learn the reason.—I am, Sir, &c.
Kensington. A PLASTERER.

MANUFACTURE OF BRICKS.

SIR,—If your correspondent "Mr. Lockwood" will inform us, young brickmakers, 1st. What are the proper quantities of each material contained in a brick of the best quality? Does it consist of one-third sand, one-third chalk, and one-third clay; or what? 2nd. How it may be known that the materials are properly mingled together? 3rd. The mode of packing them in the kiln so as to obtain the best result? then, I think, the art of brickmaking will be benefited by his labours. Will he also tell us what may be said in favour of mixing the ash with the clay at the commencement of the winter; whether by so doing the materials would become better amalgamated, or whether an objection would exist in the ash losing a portion of its burning quality.—I am, Sir, &c.,
AN EARLY SUBSCRIBER.

SIR,—I have been expecting some of your numerous correspondents would have replied to the query of "An Early Subscriber," in No. 105 of your valuable publication, who "is anxious to have an analysis of a good brick, shewing the exact proportion of each material used in its composition." I should also wish to see added to it, the nature of the compound for giving bricks or tiles a durable brown colour, and the manner of laying it on, which I believe is done before burning.
I am glad to see from your last number, the Royal Institute of British Architects have offered a premium for information on this important building material.—I am, Sir, &c.,
Isle of Wight. P. T.

BRITISH ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.

SIR,—Would you or some of your numerous correspondents have the goodness to inform me, through the medium of the pages of THE BUILDER, of the simple question at issue between the contending parties in the "British Archaeological Society." As a member, I have been addressed by the supporters of each division, and from the apparently conflicting and almost confused statements made by each, am somewhat at a loss to understand the real merits of the respective claimants for my support, and consequently (if there is to be a division) to which party to attach myself.

The neutrality which you, Mr. Editor, have hitherto maintained I highly approve, but think that the matter is now assuming such a decided form, that you can with much advantage to both parties, and with real benefit to the cause of archaeology, step forth, in order to explain the real position of the whole case. I may also add, that your acknowledged firmness in the discussion of all matters brought before your notice will add much weight to any remarks you may make.—Your insertion of this will much oblige your constant reader,
ARCHAEOLOGICAL.

[We will endeavour to comply with our correspondent's request next week. We desired to see the wound healed, not opened, and so have been silent.—ED.]

THE PORTLAND VASE.—We are glad to be able to state, that this valuable example of ancient art has been successfully restored and will shortly be re-exhibited to the public.

VACANT DISTRICT SURVEYORSHIP.—The death of Mr. Mayhew has created a vacancy in the parish of St. James, Westminster. Mr. Charles Mayhew is a candidate for the office, and as it is known that for several years past he assisted his father in the duties of the office, it is to be hoped he will be unopposed by his professional brethren.

NOTICES OF CONTRACTS.

[We are compelled by the interference of the Stamp Office to omit the names of the parties to whom tenders, &c., are to be addressed. For the convenience of our readers, however, they are entered in a book, and may be seen on application at the office of "The Builder," 5, York-street, Covent-garden.]

For the supply of Rails and Chairs for the Eastern Counties Railway. March 31.

For the erection of a new Workhouse at Stratton, St. Margaret, about Midway between Swindon and Highworth, Wiltshire. April 2.

For certain repairs to Snake Bridge (over the River Alde), Suffolk. April 2.

For certain repairs to be done to the Church of St. James, Brighthelm, Yorkshire. April 2.

For Lighting Camden-town, St. Pancras, with coal-gas for five years, from the 24th of June next. April 3.

For the erection of a Church in the parish of St. Thomas, Winchester. April 5.

For cutting, forming, and completing a new line of Private Carriage-road, one mile in length, from Whitehaven Castle, Cumberland, the seat of the Earl of Lonsdale, to the Turnpike-road, between Bransby toll-bar and Lonsdale-place, near the town of Whitehaven. April 7.

For constructing the fourth division of the Great Southern and Western Railway. April 8.

For about 250,000 Railway Sleepers not less than 9 feet long, for the Chester and Holyhead Railway. April 9.

For erecting at Alresford, Hants, between five and six thousand feet superficial of new Brickwork, to be either neat flat, joint-pointed with white mortar, or neatly tuck-pointed. The parties to find labour and the erection of scaffolding only. April 10.

For paving and repairing the foot-ways and carriage-way pavements of the parish of St. Clement Danes, for one year from Michaelmas next. April 10.

For the restoration of the Parish Church of Grays Thurrock, Essex. April 12.

For submitting a plan of a Tread-wheel, and constructing the same in the Common Goal of Great Yarmouth, Norfolk. April 24.

For all the Works to be done in the erection and completion of the new cast-iron Bridge over the Haven of Great Yarmouth, including the finding of labour, certain materials, &c. April 26.

For the construction of the third and fourth divisions of the Chester and Holyhead Railway. April 28.

For the supply of 11,000 feet of 9-inch cast-iron Pipes for a new line of Aqueduct in the Island of Malta. April 30.

For laying out the Grounds of the Victoria-park Cemetery, and for draining the same, making the roads, paths, and finding all necessary trees, shrubs, materials, &c.

COMPETITIONS.

Plans, &c., for the erection of a Commercial Middle School in connection with the committee of the Manchester Church Education Society.

Plans and Estimates for a House of Assembly for the Diet of Hungary. December 1.

APPROACHING SALES OF WOOD, &c.

BY AUCTION.

March 31.—At 7, Store-street, Bedford-square: several thousand Yellow Deals, Pine and Spruce ditto, Battens, Planks, and Boards, Ash Fellows and Planks, and other seasoned Wood.

March 31.—At Down Hall, Bradwell, Essex: 310 Oak Timber Trees, standing with Top, Lop, and Bark; 213 Ash, 157 Elm, and 78 Beech Trees.

March 31.—In the Plantation adjoining Great Chiverell Common, Wiltshire: 3,000 Fir Poles, chiefly Spruce, with a few Lots of Larch. The Poles are large, and of superior quality.

The last week in March, or the first week in April next.—A large quantity of Oak and Elm Timber, of superior quality and large dimensions, principally growing in the woods on the Orchardleigh Estate, near Frome, Somerset.

By Private Contract, before the 1st of April next.—287 Oak Trees, of full growth and large dimensions, suitable for all purposes, now standing at Woodside, near Morland, Westmoreland.

April 1.—At Chelmsford, Essex: a very valuable, extensive, and well-assorted stock of Dry Wood in great variety, comprising fine Spanish and Honduras Mahogany, mostly cut between six and seven years; particularly fine Zebra Wood, English Oak, Pencil Cedar, Birch, Beech, Elm, Rosewood, &c.

April 1.—At Gifford's Hall, Stoke by Nayland, Suffolk: 40 Oak Timber Trees and Standards; 100 Ash Timber Trees and Standards; 45 Elm Timber Trees; 34 Cherries; 20 Poplars, Firs, and Beeches.

April 2.—At the Golden Lion Inn, Ashborton, Devonshire: 1,022 Oak, and 103 Ash Trees. The Oak Timber is of very long lengths, large dimensions, and superior quality.

April 2.—At the Feedler's Room, Board's Hospital, Coventry: 144 Oak Trees, 86 Oak Poles, and 22 Cypress, now growing in Birchley Heyes Wood, Old Fillongley.

April 3.—At Whitley, near Raythorne End, Suffolk: a large quantity of Fir Timber.

April 5.—At Bower Hall, Steeple Bumpstead, Essex: 400 Fir, Oak, and Elm Trees.

April 8.—At the Spalk House, in Dean Forest, Gloucestershire, by order of the Commissioners of her Majesty's Woods and Forests: 319 Oak Timber Trees.

MEETINGS OF SCIENTIFIC BODIES

During the ensuing week.

MONDAY, March 31.—British Architects, 16, Grosvenor-street, 8 P.M.; Chemical (Society of Arts), Adelphi, 8 P.M. (Anniversary Meeting); Medical, Bolt-court, Fleet-street, 8 P.M.

TUESDAY, April 1.—Linnæum, Soho-square, 8 P.M.; Horticultural, 21, Regent-street, 3 P.M.; Civil Engineers, 25, Great George-street, 8 P.M.

WEDNESDAY, 2.—Society of Arts, Adelphi, 8 P.M.; Geological, Somerset-house, 8½ P.M.

THURSDAY, 3.—Royal, Somerset-house, 8½ P.M.; Antiquaries, Somerset-house, 8 P.M.

FRIDAY, 4.—Royal Institution, Albermarle-street, 8½ P.M.; Botanical, 20, Bedford-street, Covent-garden, 8 P.M.

SATURDAY, 5.—Anstie, 34, Grafton-street, 2 P.M.; Westminster Medical, 32, Sackville-street, 9 P.M.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"A Subscriber from No. L" wishes to know the best place to obtain a communion cloth and carpet, kneeling cushions, &c. for a new chapel.

"Brewer's Coolers."—A correspondent wishes to be told the best method of making large coolers for a brewery, say from 30 to 40 feet long: the size of joists: thickness required for the floor: and the best and most effectual means of finishing them.

"A Constant Reader."—Collingham's "Henry the Seventh's Chapel." Howard, 33, Gray's-Inn-lane.

"Another Competitor" (Sackville-street) may see that the information he sends was in our last number.

"G. S." (Tenterden), who asks "a remedy for preventing damp affecting the paper of rooms the walls of which are rendered or plastered on the brickwork," should learn the cause of the damp: does it rise from the bottom or drive through from the back.

"A Subscriber" wishes to know where and at what price genuine Indian ink can be procured, believing that much which is sold by artists' colourmen is spurious.

"W. J. S." is thanked for his information.

"Architectural Drawing Schools."—Mr. W. J. Lea, of 13, Ebury-street, Eaton-square, states, in reply to inquiries in our journal, that he has conducted an architectural drawing school for several years past, and will give particulars to any who apply. Mr. P. Mulholland, 8, Great College-street, Westminster, also gives instruction.

"E. B." (Dublin)—The machine mentioned may be obtained at Messrs. Ackerman's, Reece's, and Co.; Winsor and Newton's; or Newman's, Soho-square: price one guinea and upwards.

"W. H. P." is thanked: a copy has been sent to Earls-terrace. A notice of the progress of the works of Cologne Cathedral, present state of the churches, &c. there, will be acceptable.

"Holloway New Chapel."—"W. J." and all correspondents who favour us with their names in confidence, may feel assured that it will not be betrayed.

"J. L." (Lille).—We shall be glad to receive items of information.

"Williams's Patent Slate Ridge" shall be described next week.

"F. M." and "E. M." (Pimlico) next week.

"W. R."—The model has been received: we have not yet examined it.

"N."—Asphalted Felt does not seem to be allowable for roofs under the Buildings Act. (Schedule G.)

"Horne Hill Church."—Having given a statement from each of the parties at issue, we did not propose to carry the subject further in our pages. We will, however, reconsider the various letters which have been addressed to us upon it.

"W. G. Oxford."—In parts or numbers as may be desired.

Received.—Additional facts, having reference to Green Yard Management.